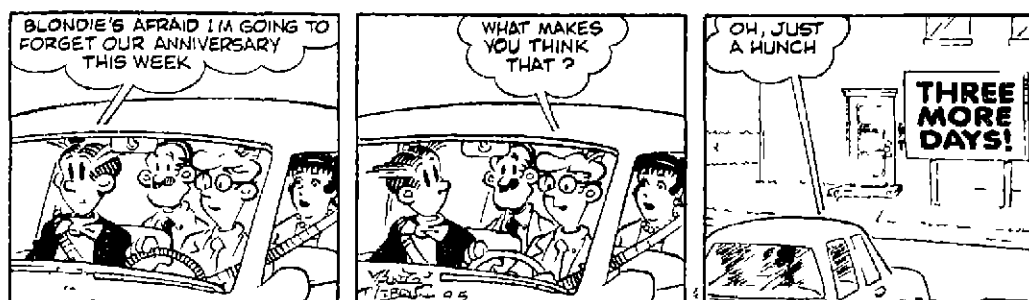


BLONDIE



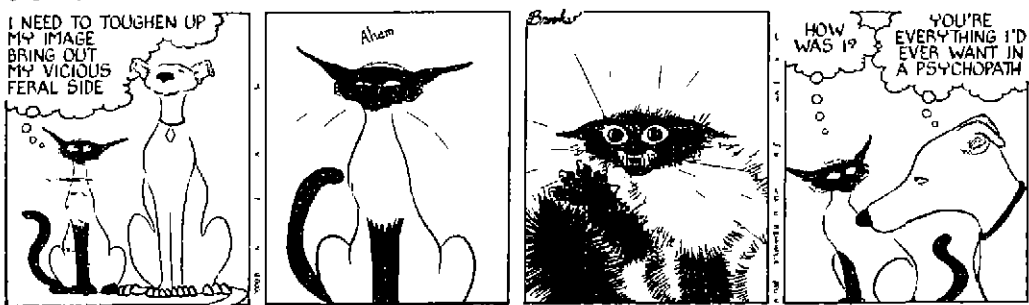
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



JUMP START



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



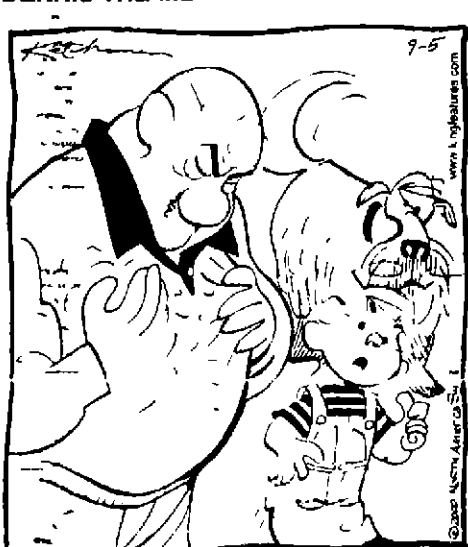
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT

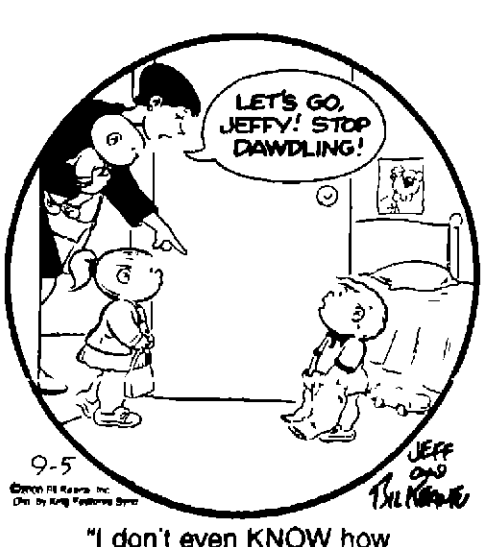


DENNIS THE MENACE



"OL' RUFF'S WHOLE COAT IS MADE OUTA HAIR, AND HE DON'T COMPLAIN."

FAMILY CIRCUS

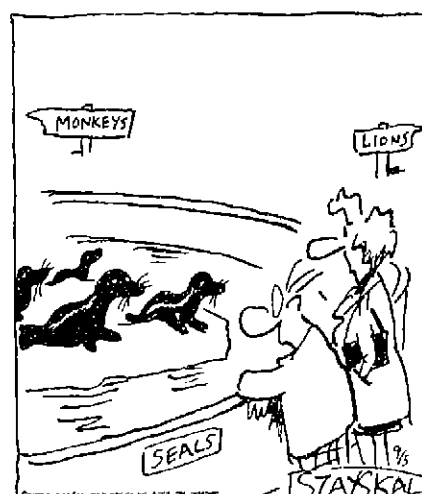


"I don't even KNOW how to dawdle yet!"

RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



"Which one is the Good Housekeeping seal of approval?"

Today's Birthdays

The president of the Motion Picture Association of America **Jack Valenti**, is 79
Comedian-Actor **Bob Newhart** is 71
Actor **William Devane** is 61
Singer **John Stewart** is 61
Actress **Raquel Welch** is 60
Singer **Al Stewart** is 55
Actor-director **Dennis Dugan** is 54
Singer **Louise Loring** is 54
Drummer **Buddy Miles** is 54
Cartoonist **Cathy Guisewite** is 50

I NEED HELP



Adam meets Eva.

SCRABBLE

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PAR SCORE 115-125
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each rack. Add points of each word using scoring of one point for each letter. Add 50 points for a 7 letter word. Words used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Warren G. Gowers and CSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers)). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

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For solution, see Classified

WORD SLEUTH

WORDS FOUND IN "OUR ANNIVERSARY"

K L I E B Y V R O L I F C Z W
T Q N K Y I F C Z W U R P M J
H E C Z R X U S Q N L J G E C
Z X Y N O R I V T R P V N L J
H S O U V E N I R V A N A E C
A Y U W I N O V O R O T R P N
L K R O I N I G I E A E C B Z
X W S U V U N O N R N Y S R P
O Y R E S R U N E O E S M L J
I G E D B S E A S N R A Y X W
U T S Q P O R N O S A E R N L

Monday's unlisted clue: PONTON
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: A ROOM FOR THE BABY

Arena Neon Reunion Souvenir
Easy Nervous Runner Various
Irony Nirvana Senior Yours
Ivory Reason Snorer

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2000

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Taking a chance will pay off like a blue-chip stock.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Get out there and mingle.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Don't be the wet blanket on your affairs.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Treat yourself to something special, perhaps a bit of indulgence that you've been pining for.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Be your shining, glittery self and people will respond with the appropriate adoration you seek.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) A little exertion may be just the challenge you've been looking for.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make time for a special person in your life, whether a lover or family member.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you can't find happiness, you're not looking hard enough.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Playing by the rules is your specialty.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Don't be afraid to try something for the first time.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) A social faux pas might ruin a prospect you've been sweet talking for a long time.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

West led his diamond king to South's ace and South exited with the diamond six, giving the defenders the opportunity to do something foolish. They didn't. East overtook West's nine with his diamond 10 and shifted to his club king. When West encouraged, East led another club, South ruffing high. South followed with a high trump to dummy's ace, but when no 10 dropped, there was no second entry to dummy. Limited to only one spade finesse, South had to concede one down when East's queen was not doubleton. How could South have improved his chances? Hoping to find a singleton trump 10 or Q-x in spades with East was a wild dream. If East had Q-x in spades, West would have had five, a possibility negated by the bidding. A much better shot to develop two dummy entries was to finesse to dummy's heart seven. West is as likely as East to hold the 10, and when the finesse wins, South can take two finesses against East's spade queen. This holds South's losses to one trick in each side suit, and the game succeeds. When you have to have luck to make your game, it's best to ask for the minimum rather than the maximum.

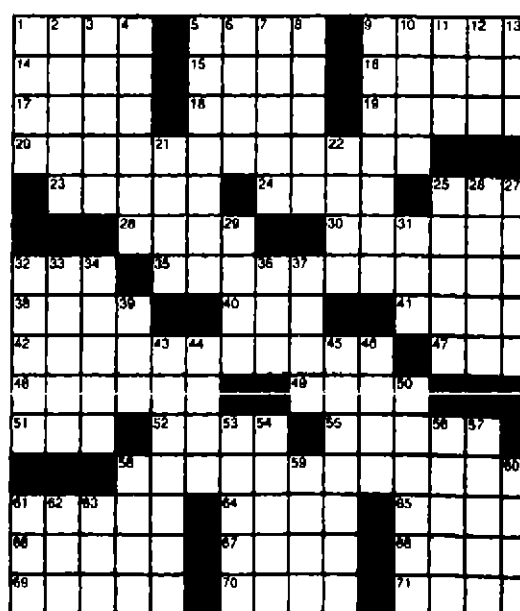
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 072

ACROSS
1 Poker variation
5 Sources of delight
9 Bashful, e.g.
14 Improve, as one's skills
15 Sector
16 Contest in the West
17 Milo's pal, in a 1989 film
18 Word after body or grand
19 Avoid answering
20 "While I'm away on vacation would you ____?"
23 Object of an old French cheer
24 Gives in to gravity
25 Quick-witted
28 Over there, poetically
30 Surface sheen
32 Battering device
35 "And ____?"
38 Designer Cassini
40 Teeny
41 One of two on a big
42 "And ____?"
47 Place to do the samba
48 Editor/suffragist
49 Begin a hand
51 Neither's partner
52 Nudge forward
55 Streetcars
56 "And ____?"
61 Stick that's waved
64 Plane prefix
65 Old TV clown
66 Glorify
67 Alka-Seltzer jungle starter
68 Started a gunfight
69 Tropical lizard
70 Political doctrines
71 Capitol Hill worker
DOWN
1 Third place
2 Wreck beyond recognition
3 Brrng together
4 Catch sight of
5 Incense scent
6 Plane airport
7 Informal affirmatives
8 Pago Pago's place
9 Put on one's Sunday best
10 Made a tapestry
11 Cavity fillers' org.
12 Like a sunset
13 Any Hatfield, to a McCoy
21 Foot that goes clop
22 Hideous
25 How some slinks
26 Coke competitor
27 "Remember" (1960 song)
29 Like a morning meadow
31 Addition solution
32 Mr. Bean portrayer
Atkinson

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

OSHA SULK SCENT
SPEW ANON COTES
SURF DICE ALICE
AROUND THE CLOCK
LOLA HEN
RAIN BESICHER SITE
ADAPT ATE DAIT
MONTH AFTER MONTH
ORCA SEE APTLY
NEE SHERMAN EEL
JUE INIS
DAY IN AND DAY OUT
BRUNT NOOL HOPE
TANGO AKIN UZIS
UTTER BEET PENT



Puzzle by Patrick Jordan

33 Crockett's last stand
34 Cabbie's counter
36 Neighbor of Mid
37 Honey drunk
39 Hairstyling goop
43 Attack verbally
44 Painter Chagall
45 Does a swab's job
46 Not (a one)
50 Kappa follower
63 Graffiti-like beast
64 Combats of honor
58 New Zealand native
57 Measured, with "up"
58 Tyler and Taylor's go between
59 Place for a king and queen
60 1993 Emmy winner Chad
61 Dog command
62 Chopper
63 Middle X or O

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone. 1-800-420-5856 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS